

CHRONO

OLL 84-4379  
18 October 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Pre-trip Briefing on Europe for House Permanent  
Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) Staffers  
Raimo and Addington

1. On 18 October 1984, HPSCI staff members Bernard Raimo and David Addington were given a pre-trip intelligence briefing on Austria, Portugal and Hungary by Directorate of Intelligence/Office of European Analysis analysts [redacted]

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[redacted] The HPSCI staffers will travel to these countries between 24 October and 3 November 1984. No notes were taken at the briefing. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] provided an overall assessment of the political-economic situation in Austria. He discussed the impact of the 1983 federal elections that brought Chancellor Fred Sinowatz to power as the leader of a Socialist/Freedom Party coalition government. The September 1984 cabinet shuffle was also discussed in terms of a further effort to remove figures from the former Kreisky era and to put the nation on an improved economy footing. Austria's foreign policy was described as committed to "active neutrality" and to continuing efforts to mediate world disputes while being careful to avoid upsetting Austria's delicate relationship with the USSR. [redacted]

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3. [redacted] presented a political/economic overview of Portugal under Prime Minister Soares and his coalition government. She discussed Portugal's economic problems which include high inflation, rising unemployment, and politically unpopular austerity measures imposed by the government. She also commented on Portugal's continuing interest in ties with its former African colonies, good relations with the US, and expanded links with the European Community. [redacted] expanded on Portugal's military relationship with the US and its arms purchases. [redacted]

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[redacted] 25X1

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4. Hungary was covered by [redacted] He characterized Hungary as the least gloomy Bloc country. Hungary has been under Janos Kadar's firm but relatively tolerant control since 1956 and, like much of the world, is struggling with difficult economic problems.

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[redacted] also discussed the heightened sense of Hungarian nationalism which could cause trouble for the regime. Hungary's eventual succession issue also clouds the future as there is no attractive replacement in view for 72 year-old Kadar. [redacted]

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5. The briefing ended with kudos from the HPSCI staffers and no follow-up requests. The session was then turned over to the DO for additional briefings. [redacted]

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[redacted]  
Liaison Division.  
Office of Legislative Liaison

[redacted]  
Chief, Liaison Division, OLL

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OLL/LD, [redacted] (5 Nov 84)

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